

*Wiltshire County*

# SHIPLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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## ANNUAL SANITARY REPORT

FOR

THE YEAR 1894,

BY

JNO. JAS. RUTHERFORD, M.D.,

FELLOW, SOCIETY OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH;

VISITING PHYSICIAN, FEVER HOSPITAL, SHIPLEY;

*Medical Officer of Health.*

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# MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

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TO THE SHIPLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,—

Since my last Report your district has been rechristened and your individual titles as an administrative body under the Public Health Act have undergone a change. I venture, therefore, to offer you my sincere congratulations on your preferment, and especially on the increased advantages it gives to the Chairman of the Council. I have reason to think these will be of signal service to the public.

During the year 1894 the number of births that has been registered was 544, of whom 271 were males and 273 females, being equal to a rate of 23·6 per thousand per annum of an estimated population of 23,387. The illegitimate births were 8 in number—6 males and 2 females.

The number of deaths recorded during the 52 weeks was 352. Of these 183 were males and 169 females, which gives a death-rate of 15·3 per thousand. This is the lowest that has been recorded for a great number of years, and although it is to be remembered that, for the past year, the death-rate is low over the country generally, considering that a goodly proportion of the population of Shipley, and especially of the children, are engaged in factories, the district occupies a most favourable position.

The births during 1893 were 577 and the deaths 430, showing a decrease this year of 33 births, and—which is the more gratifying feature—of 78 deaths. These figures are considerably lower than in any year in the previous decade.

The causes of death for 1894 were as follow :—

Smallpox	-	-	-	-	4
Measles	-	-	-	-	7
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	6
Croup	-	-	-	-	2
Whooping-cough	-	-	-	-	2
Diarrhoea and Dysentery	-	-	-	-	2
Rheumatic Fever	-	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	1
Phthisis	-	-	-	-	35
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy	-	-	-	-	69
Heart Disease	-	-	-	-	42
Influenza	-	-	-	-	1
All other Causes	-	-	-	-	180
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Total	-	-	-	-	352

It will be noticed that we have 67 notifications of scarlet fever, against 107 for 1893, and 395 in 1892. After quoting the figures of the last two years, it is quite plain 67 is still a very large proportion of cases, and, to reduce this, the only precautions I recommend are strict exclusion of all children of an infected household from school for a period of six weeks, and the disinfection of all schools every week end for a time, whether the disease be prevalent or not, in addition to all other precautions used. The School Management Committee, I feel sure, would render every assistance in this matter by giving their cordial support to such efforts. The managers of other places where public meetings are held should be requested to act similarly. What would greatly tend to lessen this endemic form of the disease would be the sending by parents of their children to the Hospital, instead of keeping them at home through the illness. During that time neither carpet nor tapestry is removed, but when they consider all danger is over, then they begin to set in motion the infection (which has hitherto been confined to a certain space) by carpet and other forms of tapestry removal for the purposes of cleaning, to the great disadvantage of some neighbour who has been so far lucky enough to escape. Such neglect by intelligent people in a district like this, where hospital accommodation is ample and magnificant, and where the

private practitioner can enter and attend his own patients without change of treatment, is without excuse, as under such privileges as we possess, no one can doubt but that the greatest good will be secured. If any sanitary appliance ever justified its existence, the Hospital undoubtedly has done, as immense service has been rendered to the township, both in the way of treating diseases of an infectious character and of cutting short the spread of epidemics. Scarlet fever, which was epidemic in a very strong form during 1892, has not yet ceased to be endemic, and I must confess it is a most difficult problem to trace the subtle line of contagion and infection in a great many cases. There have been 26 cases treated at the Fever Hospital, 3 deaths taking place there. Nine of the 26 came from Baildon, and one of the deaths was that of a Baildon patient. Of the 6 deaths registered from scarlet fever, 5 therefore only belong to Shipley, which has a zymotic death-rate of 1·0 per thousand, last year being 2·0. As regards the seasonal prevalence of the disease, the cases occurred as in the following table :—

#### NOTIFICATIONS FOR 1894.

Month.	Smallpox.	Scarlet Fever.	Croup.	Enteric Fever.	Erysipelas.	Cholera.	TOTALS.
January	17	2	0	4	2	0	25
February	4	4	1	3	0	0	12
March	4	1	0	2	2	0	9
April	0	2	0	1	2	0	5
May	0	5	0	0	1	0	6
June	0	4	0	0	1	1	6
July	0	4	0	0	0	0	4
August	0	5	0	2	2	0	9
September	0	10	0	0	1	0	11
October	0	12	0	0	2	0	14
November	0	7	0	0	1	0	8
December	0	11	0	0	2	0	13
Totals	25	67	1	12	16	1	122

There has been 11 inquests held in the district, all being of males over 5 years. Six deaths have been uncertified, and 3 deaths of people living outside the district have taken place within it. There were 6 deaths at Sir Titus Salt's Hospital—5 males and 1 female; 7 deaths have occurred at Stoney Ridge Hospital—4 smallpox and 3 scarlet fever. One of the scarlet fever cases was a patient sent up in a moribund state, and he died a few hours after admission.

Smallpox has caused 4 deaths, which is at the rate of 8 per cent. of the number of cases notified and treated at the Hospital. None of the cases were of vaccinated persons or bore any traces of vaccination, and I may here state that the most severely confluent cases were the unvaccinated amongst those who recovered. One old soldier, who had during his lifetime been re-vaccinated twice, and who showed marked evidence of it, had not more than a score of well-defined vesicles on his body, and the attack was almost unaccompanied by fever. The Government, in my opinion, should sanction compulsory vaccination and revaccination in all infected areas, in conjunction with the local measures that are promptly adopted and carried out, irrespective of cost, such as isolation, disinfection, and quarantine, which tend largely to spare the inhabitants of the infected districts from a most loathsome and fatal disease, and which has in the past certainly limited the outbreak. I am glad to state that no case of smallpox has been reported since last March.



CASES TREATED AT THE FEVER HOSPITAL  
DURING 1894.

1894.	Shipley.		Saltaire.		Windhill.		Baildon.		TOTALS.
	Small-pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Small-pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Small-pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Small-pox.	Scarlet Fever.	
Jan. .	7	1	4	0	6	0	0	0	18
Feb. .	1	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	6
Mar. .	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
Apl. .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
May .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
June .	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
July..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Aug..	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2
Sept..	0	3	0	1	0	1	0	0	5
Oct. .	0	3	0	3	0	1	0	1	8
Nov. .	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	6
Dec. .	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Totals	8	9	11	6	6	2	2	9	54
Shipley and Windhill	...	...	...	42	Baildon and Yeadon	...	12		



The following tables give the different ages at which death took place in the district—also in Shipley and Windhill separately:—

The ages at which death occurred were as follow:—

SHIPLEY AND WINDHILL.

		1894.	1893.
Under 1 year	- - - -	70	118
Over 1 year and under 5 years		50	45
,, 5     ,,     15     ,,		17	19
,, 15     ,,     25     ,,		27	28
,, 25     ,,     60     ,,		95	105
60 and upwards	- - - -	93	115
		—	—
	Totals	352	430
	Decrease of deaths,	78.	

SHIPLEY.

		1894.	1893.
Under 1 year	- - - -	45	65
Over 1 year and under 5 years		32	32
,, 5     ,,     15     ,,		13	11
,, 15     ,,     25     ,,		21	24
,, 25     ,,     60     ,,		70	66
60 and upwards	- - - -	56	83
	—	—	—
	Totals	237	281
	Decrease of deaths,	44.	

WINDHILL.

		1894.	1893.
Under 1 year	- - - -	32	53
Over 1 and under 5 years	- -	13	13
,, 5     ,,     15     ,,	-	4	8
,, 15     ,,     25     ,,	-	6	4
,, 25     ,,     60     ,,	-	24	39
60 and upwards	- - - -	36	32
	—	—	—
	Totals-	115	149
	Decrease of Deaths	34.	

IN THE URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT OF  
SHIPLEY.

LIST OF ZYMOtic DEATHS.

1894.		1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1894.	1893.
Measles ... ... ..	0	0	0	7	7	17	
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0	0	2	4	6	5	
Croup ... ... ..	1	0	0	1	2	5	
Whooping Cough ..	2	0	0	0	2	7	
Enteric Fever ... ..	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Diarrhoea and Dysentery	0	0	1	1	2	11	
Smallpox ... ... ..	4	0	0	0	4	0	
TOTALS ... ... ..	7	0	3	13	23	46	

SHIPLEY ZYMOtic DEATH-RATE.

1894.		1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1894.	1893.
Measles ... ... ..	0	0	0	6	6	8	
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0	0	2	4	6	5	
Croup ... ... ..	0	0	0	0	0	3	
Whooping Cough ..	1	0	0	0	1	4	
Enteric Fever .. ..	0	0	0	0	0	1	
Diarrhoea and Dysentery	0	0	1	0	1	6	
Smallpox ... ... ..	4	0	0	0	4	0	
TOTALS ... ... ..	5	0	3	10	18	27	



## WINDHILL ZYMOtic DEATH-RATE.

1894.	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	1894.	1893.
Measles ... ...	0	0	0	1	1	9
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0	0	0	0	0	0
Croup ... ..	1	0	0	1	2	2
Whooping Cough. ...	1	0	0	0	1	3
Enteric Fever .. ...	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diarrhoea and Dysentery	0	0	0	1	1	5
TOTALS ... ...	2	0	0	3	5	19

LIST OF DEATHS DUE TO THE SEVEN ZYMOtic  
DISEASES DURING THE LAST TWO YEARS.

	1894.	1893.
Smallpox - - -	4	0
Scarlet Fever - - -	6	5
Measles - - -	7	17
Croup and Diphtheria - -	2	5
Whooping Cough - -	2	7
Enteric Fever - - -	0	1
Diarrhoea - - -	2	11
Totals -	23	46
Decrease of deaths, 23.		

In previously referring to Smallpox, I omitted to mention that all cases occurring in the district were removed to Stoney Ridge, where a Smallpox Hospital was erected within the grounds of the Fever Hospital, but at some distance from it, and here we were not only able to treat our own cases, but also cases from Baildon, Bingley, and Yeadon.

Measles has caused 7 deaths. The disease has been prevalent to some extent, along with its companion, whooping-cough, which was responsible for 2 deaths under 5 years of age in the first quarter of the year.

Under croup and diphtheria are 2 deaths, which belong to croup, and are both under 5 years of age. I may here remark that diphtheria has of late attracted a great deal of attention, and, although much has been written about it, our knowledge of the malady is yet imperfect in several important respects, and, whether the antitoxine treatment is going to be the success some are inclined to ascribe to it, remains yet to be proved. In some places diphtheria is an extremely fatal affection, there being few cases, especially in children under 10 years of age, of recovery. Shipley, however, does not seem to be one of the localities favourable for its development.

There have been no deaths from enteric fever, which is extremely noteworthy, as 12 cases have been notified. This is a good indication of the sanitary state of the district, and shows that the conditions affecting the health of the community are improving.

Diarrhoea has, as a rule, a comparatively large mortality. Among children this year it accounts for only 2 deaths, both of children under 5 years of age. I may here state that the zymotic death-rate for 1894 is 1 per thousand, and, considering the severe epidemics of smallpox and scarlet fever in close proximity to us, it is fairly satisfactory.

**ERYSIPelas** :—One death is ascribed to this cause. It is frequently found to be seasonal or constitutional rather than caused by insanitary conditions or contagion. In many people it recurs periodically, and is chiefly of the "facial" type, and to all appearance is idiopathic in character; in other cases, where it commences in an open wound or some abrasion of the skin or mucous membrane, the exciting cause may be due to drains, offensive accumulations, overcrowding, proximity to foul ash-pits, or even infectious disease of some sort or other—the action of micro-organism.

**INFLUENZA** has caused one death, and although only sporadic, is a most unwelcome visitor, because of the serious way it riddles the constitution, reducing the power of resistance, and rendering its victim more liable to other diseases.

PHTHISIS :—Thirty-five deaths have been caused by this disease, being equal to 1·5 per thousand, which is a large percentage, especially as it is regarded as a preventible disease.

RESPIRATORY DISEASES (excluding Phthisis) :—During the year these have been the cause of 69 deaths, 33, which is nearly one-half, being under 5 years. This is at the rate of 3 per thousand.

HEART DISEASE :—The various diseases to which this organ is subject have been the cause of 42 deaths, which is exactly double the number of 1893.

The MILK SUPPLY I believe to be good, but I would strongly urge the desirability of all milk purveyors being registered and compelled to conduct their business on premises apart, not in, their dwelling-houses, where, in some cases, there is a large family of young children. Knowing how susceptible milk is to take up impurities, how ready to act as a vehicle of infection, it appears to me altogether wrong that it should be sold in and conducted from dwelling-houses.

The WATER SUPPLY is abundant, and the plumbosolvency of the water has been greatly remedied, and I am sure we all feel indebted to the County Medical Officer (Dr. Whitelegge) for the great assistance he has rendered to us in this matter. I personally do not quite agree with the soda treatment in the reduction of the acid, giving preference to chalk entirely; and, in addition, would recommend that all heather should be burnt off the gathering-ground. This at present, I suppose, would be a difficult task, as I believe notice has to be given to Mr. Ferrand's agent before we can go on the ground to inspect the sources of our water, less ~~t~~ the game should be disturbed. This, I hope, will soon be altered by the united action of the West Riding County Council presenting a bill in Parliament, to discontinue such abuses of water gathering-grounds.

The MARKET PLACE is regularly watched by our Meat Inspector, who is a qualified veterinary surgeon, and whose duty it is to examine daily all carcases intended for food purposes. Since this system has been adopted,

in conjunction with the opening of the Abattoirs, it has conferred an immense boon upon the public by preventing diseased and inferior meat being offered for sale, which would otherwise have been sold to the public and consumed. More carcases have been condemned and destroyed in one year since the opening of the Slaughterhouse than were destroyed in fifteen previous years.

The COMMON LODGING-HOUSE is registered to accommodate 66 travellers, and appears to be well conducted, but lately the attention of the Board has been called to the yard space in front of the house, which is abutting on the main street (Kirkgate), being almost blocked up by being used for the storage of old iron and firewood. Against this the authorities took proceedings and obtained an order to get it cleared away, but it is not yet quite satisfactory.

CEMETERY.—This ground, although not completed, is open for interments, several burials having already taken place. It has long been felt to be a great necessity by many residents, not only from the scarcity of burial ground in the parish, but from a sanitary point of view, the Church ground being too full, and now almost in the centre of a large population. The new Cemetery—when completed—will be, from its situation, a most picturesque, easily approachable, and very desirable ground—its dimensions being capable of accommodating Shipley for centuries.

SEWAGE.—The Members of the Board forming the Special Sanitary Committee have been seriously and fully occupied during the year in the consideration of this very important question of Sewage Disposal, and have visited many of the works in Lancashire and Yorkshire, in order to obtain the most practical information with regard to their construction and working, &c. They have consulted Mr B. Latham, one of the first-rank Sanitary Engineers, and on his report appointed Mr Paterson Engineer for Shipley District and Mr Woodhead (who had been already engaged by the Windhill Board) for Windhill. An inquiry by the Local Government Board has also been held, and the scheme, being now in their hands, awaits their sanction.

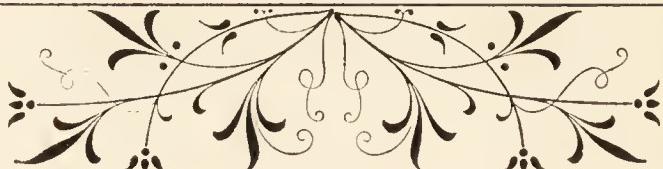
A great number of visits have been paid by me to different places, and with the Members of the Board I visited and inspected the whole district in October last, the result of which will be found in the Sanitary Officer's Report. Here I may say that a great many improvements were observed to be completed, and others to be in progress.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JNO. JAS. RUTHERFORD, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.



**MORTALITY RETURNS, &c.**  
**BIRTHS AND DEATHS.**

Year.	Births.	Rate per 1000.	Deaths.	Rate per 1000.
1885	391	23·0	275	16·2
1886	423	24·8	227	13·3
1887	422	24·8	293	17·2
1888	425	23·6	259	14·3
1889	403	22·3	291	16·1
1890	449	24·3	282	15·6
1891	386	21·4	320	17·7
1892	378	23·6	267	16·6
1893	364	22·7	281	17·5
1894	345	21·5	237	14·8
Average of 10 years, 1885 to 1894	398·6	23·2	273·2	15·9

**INFANT MORTALITY.**

Deaths of Children under 1 year.	Percentage of Deaths to the total number of Deaths.	Percentage of Children under 1 year to the number of Registered Births.	Deaths under 5 years.	Percentage to the total number of Deaths.
1885 = 38	13·8	1·7	70	25·4
1886 = 57	25·5	13·4	78	34·8
1887 = 68	23·2	16·1	123	41·9
1888 = 57	22·0	13·4	87	34·3
1889 = 58	19·9	14·4	107	36·7
1890 = 58	20·5	12·9	86	30·5
1891 = 70	21·9	18·1	118	36·8
1892 = 81	20·7	13·0	147	37·5
1893 = 118	27·2	20·4	163	37·9
1894 = 70	19·8	13·1	120	34·0
Average of 10 yrs., 1885-94	67·5	21·4	109·9	34·9

## DEATHS FROM ZYMOtic DISEASES.

Disease.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	Annual Average, 1885 to 1894.	Per cent. per 1000, per annum, 1894, at 23,000.
Small-pox	...	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	4	0.5	.17
Measles	...	3	0	15	1	18	7	8	3	17	7.9	.30
Scarlet Fever	...	3	1	10	3	0	2	3	37	5	7.0	.26
Diphtheria	...	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0.1	.0
Whooping Cough	7	1	9	0	7	0	5	4	7	2	4.2	.08
Enteric Fever	...	0	1	5	2	4	0	3	1	1	0	.7
Diarrhoea	...	0	0	7	4	4	3	2	6	11	2	.08
Croup	...	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	3	5	2	.08
Totals	...	13	3	46	11	35	14	24	54	46	23	26.9

## VITAL STATISTICS.

	No.	Per 1000 of Population.
Births	...	= 23.6
Deaths of Children under 1 year	...	= 3.04
Deaths of Children under 5 years	...	= 5.2
Deaths from Zymotic Diseases	...	= —
Total Deaths	...	= 15.3

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
SANITARY INSPECTOR,  
FOR  
THE YEAR 1894.

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TO THE  
CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SHIPLEY  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Shipley, February 18th, 1895.

GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to report that the following work has been done in the Sanitary Department during the year ending December 31st, 1894:—

13 Reports have been made to your Committee.

6 Inspections have been made along with the Committee.

7 Inspections have been made in conjunction with the Medical Officer.

123 Cases of Infectious Diseases have been reported; visits made and disinfectants supplied where required.

— Houses fumigated to prevent the further spread of infection.

~~12,~~ Patients taken to the Hospital.

1104 Complaints dealt with: 1033 of these have been attended to, and the remainder are on hand.

15 House and W.C. Drains opened and cleared of obstruction.

44 Sink Drains syphon-trapped or disconnected from the sewers.

4 W.C. Cisterns repaired where found to be leaking.

2 Wet Ashpits remedied.

- 10 Gully Drains opened and cleared of obstruction.
- 3 Cast-iron Gully Traps fixed in lieu of old Brick Traps.
- 14 Earthenware Gullies for Dish Stones in lieu of Bell Traps.
- 10 Stop-tap Boxes inserted in causeways.
- 2 Cases of Smoke Nuisance have been dealt with.
- 41 New Taps put in.
- 4 W.C. Traps and Pots repaired.
- 7 Cases of Fowls kept in connection with dwelling-houses have been removed.
- 1 Soil Pipe brought outside and Roof ventilated.
- 2 Wet Open Ashpits covered in.
- 34 Privies and Ashpits re-built on a better principle.
- 12 Privies converted into Water Closets.
- 1 Ashpit Wall repaired.
- 1 Dangerous Wall taken down and re-built.
- 2 Yards paved.
- 50 Houses have been re-drained, and better sanitary arrangements carried out.
- 1 Road End fenced off which was found to be dangerous.
- 5 Roads repaired where notices had to be sent.
- 5 Causeways repaired where notices had to be sent.
- 6 Ashpit Doors have been repaired.
- 1 Privy and Ashpit repaired where found to be leaking.
- 1 Privy, found to be unsightly, remedied.
- 3 Fall-pipe Drains repaired.
- 4 House and W.C. Drains, which were found to be leaking, repaired.
- 3 Main Drains in streets opened and cleared of obstruction.
- 116 Notices sent to repair W.C. Leakages.
- 30 Canal Boats inspected and reports made as to the condition of the Boats.
- 2 Spouts and Fall Pipes repaired.
- 2 Dangerous Railings repaired.
- 1 Dangerous Building taken down and re-built.

1	Stable re-drained.			
4	New Spouts fixed.			
17	Miscellaneous Matters relating to Nuisances have been attended to.			
582	Notices sent to repair Leakages in Water Fittings.			
1	Cellar Floor found to be flooded has been drained and disconnected.			
23	Burst Service Pipes repaired.			
5	Carcases of Beef seized and destroyed at the Abattoir.			
2	Calves	do.	do.	
1	Sheep	do.	do.	
1	Pig	do.	do.	
12	Mackerel seized in the street and destroyed.			
10	Kippered Herrings	do.	do.	
1	Urinal, which was formerly open, has now been covered in and properly ventilated.			
1612	Loads of Nightsoil removed in the Shipley district.			
301	do. Dry Ashes	do.	do.	
<hr/>				
1913				
1274	do. Nightsoil removed in Saltaire and Frizinghall districts.			
745	do. Dry Ashes	do.	do.	
<hr/>				
2019				
2035 $\frac{3}{4}$	do. Nightsoil removed in the Windhill district.			
36	do. Dry Ashes	do.	do.	
<hr/>				
2071 $\frac{3}{4}$				
6003 $\frac{3}{4}$	Total.			

During the year you will see that there has been a large number of old and dilapidated privies and ash pits taken down and rebuilt in Hargreaves Square and different parts of Windhill, which has improved the sanitary state of these parts.

You will also see that there has been a large number of houses re-drained in the district, several of these having been formerly nothing but dry rubble drains, which must have been very dangerous to the health of the occupants. What made the conditions most dangerous was that the drains ran under the floors, but many of the drains have now been replaced by glass-lined iron pipes, and in all cases have been properly disconnected.

As in previous reports, I am able to point to advantages gained by the community through the public Slaughterhouses. In all there were nine seizures of animals at the Abattoirs, but as the owners made no objection to the carcases being declared unfit for human food, proceedings before the magistrates were unnecessary.

Some excellent Sanitary work has been done in the district through the carrying out of Street Improvements, by which the clearing of streets has been rendered easy, and it has been less difficult to influence owners of property. I need only refer to the completion of the improvement in the Bradford Arms district, in Mount Street, Ashley Street, Murgatroyd Street, Cromwell Road, Fountain Street, and High Street. Wherever improvements of this kind have been made, the benefits have been very apparent and greatly appreciated by the people living in the neighbourhood.

The only prosecution undertaken by the Board during the year was one against the keeper of the Shipley Model Lodging House, for having his yard in an unwholesome condition. The Board obtained a conviction, and the case is one in which further action may have yet to be taken.

Particulars of all these cases will be found on referring to the Daily Report Book.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

W. H. DAWSON,

Sanitary Inspector.

